

Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000
Public Law 106-393
Title II Project Submission Form
Northeast Oregon Forests Resource Advisory
Committee

1. Project Number (Assigned by Designated Federal Official): **GR-MAL04-122**

2. Project Name: The Keystone Project	3. County: Grant
4. Project Sponsor: Grant County Conservationists	5. Date: November 14, 2002
6. Sponsor's Phone Number: 541-377-5820	
7. Sponsors E-mail: keystone@ortelco.net Linda Driskill	

8. Project Location (attach project area map) Malheur National Forest – no map attached as the project is not site specific.	
a. 4 th Field Watershed Name and HUC #: Middle Fork John Day #17070203	
b. 5 th Field Watershed Name and HUC # (if known):	
c. Location: Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) all _____ Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) all _____ Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) _____ Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) _____ Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) _____ Township _____ Range _____ Section(s) _____	
d. BLM District Prineville	e. BLM Resource Area
f. National Forest Malheur	g. Forest Service District Blue Mountain
h. State / Private / Other lands involved? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No X Maybe	

9. Statement of Project Goals and Objectives: (max. 7 lines) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restoration of beaver, aquatic ecosystems, fish and wildlife habitat Recharging ground water systems and storage of water for late season release Nutrient cycling (flooding by beaver quadruples the amount of nitrogen available to plants). Decreasing stream velocity and erosion potential with cleaner and cooler water downstream. Building sediment bars for the reestablishment of willows and riparian hardwoods Providing opportunities for people with different values and beliefs to work together on the common goal of watershed restoration if they agree that beaver can make this contribution.

Project map not attached as project area is not specific. The beaver relocations will be on the Malheur National Forest. The workshop will address beaver restoration in the Blue Mountains.

10. Project Description: (max. 30 lines.)

This project will fund training and support for a Collaborative Community Beaver Response Team of volunteers to live trap and relocate problem beaver in family groups. Considerable appreciation for the place of beaver in watersheds has been achieved in our area by recent efforts and the increased amount of tolerance now accorded the beaver is commendable. We plan to:

- Renew a formal cooperative agreement with ODFW, BLM, USFS & others to continue collaborative efforts toward Watershed Restoration using Beaver as a Management Tool.
- Form a volunteer Community Beaver Response Team trained to live trap and relocate beaver.
- Fund a USFS biologist to work part-time on beaver restoration and ID team members to work collaboratively with ODFW, GCC, and others to draft and implement a beaver restoration plan for the Malheur Forest.
- Promote and fund the installation of beaver bafflers, pond leveling devices, etc.
- Conduct a major workshop that would focus on successful habitat selection, relocation, solving conflicts with beaver, etc.

In 1998 we conducted a successful Watershed Restoration using Beaver as a Management Tool Workshop and since have succeeded in identifying many authoritative consultants and professional contacts, built up a substantial mailing list, put into operation a beaver-habitat update email list, obtained several videos and prototypes of conflict solving devices, and a variety of successful beaver management plans. Our bumperstickers “Beaver Taught Salmon to Jump” are well received, for example 100 of them were sold at the last Wildlife Society Meeting.

The envisaged effort will be a collaborative one with the USFS, ODFW, Grant County Conservationists (GCC), and other signers of the 1998 Interagency Memorandum of Agreement well as private parties interested in having beaver. Referrals of either problem beaver or landowners wishing to reintroduce beaver will be handled through the ODFW. GCC will work in coordination with a USFS biologist who will be funded one day a pay period during 2004 as well as an ID Team authorized to write a beaver restoration and management plan. The former’s duties will included selection of beaver habitat using a Beaver Habitat Suitability Matrix (prototype already available); working with volunteers trained to relocate problem beaver in family units; monitoring and evaluation of project; and participation in the drafting and implementation of a Beaver Restoration & Management Plan.

11. Coordination of this project with other related project(s) on adjacent lands?

X ☐ Yes ☐ No **If yes, then describe** (max. 10 lines)

- Range – Advocate for the inclusion of beaver restoration in all upcoming Range Management documents (EIS, Allotment Management Plans, etc.)
- Roads – Coordinate with the Grant County Roadmaster and forest engineers to either relocate problem beaver or encourage or assist with the construction of beaver bafflers, etc.
- Fish biologists – work closely with biologists to determine priority goals (if a conflict is in sight with a beaver dam and habitat restoration vs. fish passage, etc.)
- Watershed boards
- Grant County Soil and Water – This organization is an original signer of the Memorandum of Agreement and committed to collaboration for beaver reestablishment.
- Oregon State University Extension – same as above.

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12. How does proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? [Sec. 203(b)(1)]
<input type="checkbox"/> Improves maintenance of existing infrastructure. [Sec. 2(b)]
X <input type="checkbox"/> Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems. [Sec. 2(b)]
X <input type="checkbox"/> Restores and improves land health. [Sec. 2(b)]
X <input type="checkbox"/> Restores water quality. [Sec. 2(b)]

13. Project Type (check one) [Sec. 203(b)(1)]	
<input type="checkbox"/> Road Maintenance [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Maintenance [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]
<input type="checkbox"/> Road Decommission/Obliteration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Trail Obliteration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Infrastructure Maintenance (specify): [Sec. 2(b)(2)(A)]	
<input type="checkbox"/> Soil Productivity Improvement [Sec. 2(b)(2)(B)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Forest Health Improvement [Sec. 2(b)(2)(C)]
X <input type="checkbox"/> Watershed Restoration & Mntc. [Sec. 2(b)(2)(D)]	X <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife Habitat Restoration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(E)]
X <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Habitat Restoration [Sec. 2(b)(2)(E)]	<input type="checkbox"/> Control of Noxious Weeds [Sec. 2(b)(2)(F)]
X Reestablish Native Species [Sec. 2(b)(2)(G)]	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Project Type (specify) [Sec. 2(b)(2)]:	

14. Measure of Project Accomplishments/Expected Outcomes [Sec. 203(b)(5)]	
a. Total Acres:	b. Total Miles:
c. No. Structures:	d. Est. People Reached (for environmental education projects): 200 directly through volunteer program & workshop; other through media coverage.
e. No. Laborer Days: USFS - 52 Volunteer - 50 ODFW – as much as needed (no funding requested)	
f. Other (specify):	

15. Estimated Completion Date: [Sec. 203(b)(2)] November 1, 2004, will be the date for program evaluation and planning for future efforts

16. Target Species Benefited: (if applicable) (max. 7 lines) Anadromous fish, native trout, macroinvertebrates, amphibians, riparian sedges, grasses and native hardwoods and shrubs. Humans needing better quantity and quality of water for irrigation and domestic and commercial uses.

17. How will cooperative relationships among people that use federal lands be improved? [Sec. 2(b)(3)] (max. 12 lines)

Conflicts involving values and convictions among federal land users are becoming ever more publicized and cantankerous. People need ways to work together and get to know each other so as to bypass such conflicts. We feel that beaver can help provide common ground for people of many persuasions to look at watersheds and the complex problems involved with restoration.

This project will renew the collaborative working relationships regarding beaver restoration formerly agreed to in 1998 between: the Malheur Forest, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife,

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the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (John Day Basin Office), Bureau of Land Management, Wildlife Services, Oregon State University Extension, Grant County Soil and Water District, the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Grant County Conservationists.

18. How is this project in the best public interest? [Sec. 203(b)(7)] **Identify benefits to communities.** (max. 12 lines)

Communities are divided because of the conflicts mentioned above between people with different values and convictions. Chief among these differences is an anthropocentric (people oriented), biocentric (all species oriented) conflict. Beaver can provide common ground for some people on both sides of conflicts over land management. Science data and science-based technology will play increasing roles in management. Issues such as aquatic and ecological integrity can be approached through work around the restoration of watersheds using beaver as a management tool. Grant County people have been interested in beaver recovery for many decades. We should continue to build upon these good efforts.

19. How does project benefit federal lands/resources? (max. 12 lines)

The restoration of beaver populations and a focus on aquatic and ecological integrity, which results from this action, is the only way in our opinion that successful watershed restoration will occur. Federal agencies tend to concentrate on technological fixes that focus on the symptoms of dysfunctional streams and watershed while ignoring the causes of hydrologic failure. Putting hard structures (which deals with a symptom – lack of pools) in streams is not only expensive but also often counterproductive. We need real beaver (not Man-Imitating-Beaver fixes) and the many ways that beaver contribute to ecological and aquatic integrity, as well as greatly enhanced ground water storage.

20. Status of Project Planning

a. NEPA Complete:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
If no, give est. date of completion:			
c. NMFS Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
d. USFWS Sec. 7 ESA Consultation Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
e. Survey & Manage Complete:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
f. DSL/ODFW* Permits for In-stream Work Obtained:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
g. DSL/COE* 404 Fill/Removal Permit Obtained:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
h. SHPO* Concurrence Received:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable
i. Project Design(s) Completed:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	

* DSL = Dept. of State Lands, ODFW = Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, COE = Army Corps of Engineers, SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer

21. Proposed Method(s) of Accomplishment (check those that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Contract	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Workforce
<input type="checkbox"/> County Workforce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Volunteers
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): State biologists will provide assistance at no cost to the project.	

22. Will the Project Generate Merchantable Materials? [Sec. 204(e)(3)]

☐ Yes ☒ No

23. Anticipated Project Costs [Sec. 203(b)(3)]	
a. Total County Title II Funds Requested: 26,224.00	
b. Is this a multi-year funding request? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, then display by fiscal year	
c. FY02 Request:	f. FY05 Request: 3500.00
d. FY03 Request:	g. FY06 Request: 3500.00
e. FY04 Request: 19,224	

Table 1. Project Cost Analysis

Item	Column A Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	Column B Requested County Title II Contribution [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	Column C Other Contributions [Sec. 203(b)(4)]	Column D Total Available Funds
24. Field Work & Site Surveys		2,750.00		2,750.00
25. NEPA & Sec. 7 ESA Consultation		500.00		500.00
26. Permit Acquisition				
27. Project Design & Engineering		7,000.00		7,000.00
28. Workshop		4,000.00		4,000.00
29. Contract Administration				
30. Contract Cost				
31. Workforce Cost				
32. Materials & Supplies		250.00	250.00	500.00
33. Monitoring		2,750.00	1000.00	3,750.00
34. Other (i.e. Section 106 Compliance) Vehicle cost		550.00	500.00	1,050.00
35. Project Sub-Total		17,800.00		19,550.00
36. Indirect Costs (Overhead @ 8%) (per year for multi-year projects)		1, 424.00		1,424.00
37. Total Cost Estimate		19,224.00	1,750.00	20,974.00

38. Identify Source(s) of Other Funding for Project Identified Above [Sec. 203(b)(4)] (max. 7 lines)
Lamb Foundation, Fund for Wild Nature, Private donations

39. Monitoring Plan [Sec. 203(b)(6)]

- a. **What measures or evaluations will be made to determine how well the proposed project meets the desired ecological conditions?** [Sec. 203(b)(6)] (max. 7 lines) Keep database current of beaver activity and photo monitoring; locate suitable habitat for relocations using Beaver Habitat Suitability form criteria (with analysis of many variables (canopy closure, shrub cover, species composition, stream gradient, water fluctuation, etc.); consult with forest hydrologists and fish biologists; evaluate success or failure of relocations.
- b. **Who is responsible for this monitoring item?:** USFS biologist
- c. **How will the project be evaluated to determine how well the proposed project contributes towards local employment and/or training opportunities, including summer youth jobs programs such as the Youth Conservation Corps?** [Sec. 203(b)(6)] (max. 7 lines) NA
Who is responsible for this monitoring item?: _____
- d. **What methods and measures of evaluation will be established to determine how well the proposed project improves the use of, or added value to, any products removed from National Forest System lands consistent with the purposes of this Act?** [Sec. 203(b)(6) and Sec. 204(e)(3)] (max. 7 lines) Water is a major “product” coming off Forest Service land (perhaps 80% of all water used in the Pacific Northwest originates on public lands). Surveys of other public lands where beaver are being monitored indicates that streams without beaver are often dry or have unusually low flows compared to those which have established beaver colonies. Water, originating in headwaters and tributaries is much less likely to cause destructive flooding when normal flooding functions are restored. “Best professional judgments”, as well as watershed assessments protocols will be used to estimate restored natural processes.
Who is responsible for this monitoring item?: USFS biologists and volunteers._____
- e. **Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks (Table 1, Item 33)**
(max. 7 lines)
Amount 3750.00 _____

Project Name:

County Commissioner Concurrence

(Majority Required per charter)

A majority of the county commissioners of Grant County have reviewed this proposed Public Law 106-393 project for the NE Oregon Forest Resource Advisory Council and agree with the proposal as submitted, except for the comments noted below:

Attested by Commissioner

Date

Priority Rating:

☐ High ☐ Medium ☒ Low

Comments/Rational: